

MICKE GROVE PARK  
11793 North Micke Grove Road  
Lodi  
San Joaquin County  
California

HALS CA-36  
CA-36

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240-0001

## HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY

### MICKE GROVE PARK

HALS NO. CA-36

Location: 11793 N Micke Grove Road, Lodi, San Joaquin County, CA  
Lat: 38.04701 Long: -121.16287

Significance: Micke Grove Park is a good example of a traditional community park similar to parks in many communities that serve local residents with a diversity of recreational venues.

History: William G. Micke was a farmer and grape grower in the California Central Valley who donated 285 acres to the city of Lodi for a community park in the 1950s. A canopy of mature valley oak trees provides needed shade where summer temperatures are hot. Many other species of trees have been planted throughout the park to create an arboretum with many fine specimens including dawn redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*), redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), cork oak (*Quercus suber*), live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and others. There is a grove of pollarded crape myrtle (*Lagerstomia* spp.)

Park improvements include an understory of lawn, single and group picnic areas, walking paths, driving lanes, parking, horseshoe pits, a channelized Pixley Slough, ballfields, playground, water play feature, an ornamental fountain, a pond, a rose garden, and curbs, walls, entry ways, and a drinking fountain made of rounded cobblestones.

Attractions have been added over the years and include 'Fun Town' an amusement park for young children with rides and colorful characters, and a non-historic Japanese garden and pavilion. Several historic buildings have been moved to the park to house the San Joaquin Historical Museum. There are 4 buildings that display agricultural equipment. In 1980 a harness shop, blacksmith shop and a 3300-piece Floyd Locher tool collection were acquired for the museum. The Calaveras Schoolhouse was moved onto the site in 1977 and restored in the 1980s. This was the first agricultural museum west of the Mississippi to be accredited by the American Association of Museums in 1973.

Sources: History of Historical Society by Ralph Lea and Christi Kennedy,  
[www.sanjoaquinhistory.org/history.php](http://www.sanjoaquinhistory.org/history.php).

Micke Grove Regional Park, [www.mgzoo.com/parks/micke-grove-park.htm](http://www.mgzoo.com/parks/micke-grove-park.htm).

Site visit by Chris Pattillo February 15, 2009.

Historian: Chris Pattillo, Landscape Architect, July 25, 2009  
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One of the original oaks with group picnic facilities beneath (Chris Pattillo, February 15, 2009).



Entrance to Fun Town - one of the many family entertainment venues within Mickey Grove Park (Chris Pattillo, February 15, 2009).